

For Immediate Release May 12, 2008 CONTACT:
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Gualala Pump Station Spills Recycled Water

(Sea Ranch, CA) — Sonoma County Water Agency officials, their contract operator and Gualala Community Services District personnel today responded to the Sea Ranch North Treatment Plant where approximately 28,000 gallons of recycled water spilled from a Gualala Community Service District pump station. The cause of the spill was due to a pipe fitting failure. Work crews determined that the recycled water entered Salal Creek. Sampling took place to determine if there were any impacts to the creek or its surrounding environment. The North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board and the State Office of Emergency Services were notified of the spill.

"It is our priority to protect the environment no matter the size of a spill," said Deputy Chief Engineer of Operations Pam Jeane. "In this case, the spill was at the facility of Gualala CSD and not the Agency, but regardless we responded as a team to prevent further possible impacts to the environment."

Secondary treated wastewater from Sea Ranch North Treatment Plant is treated to tertiary standards at the Gualala Community Services District Treatment Plant and used to irrigate the Sea Ranch Golf Links. The main use of recycled water is irrigation of crops and large landscaped areas such as golf courses, athletic fields, commercial and industrial parks, and cemeteries. To learn more about recycled water, visit www.sonomacountywater.org.

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